

REMARKS

Formal Matters

Claims 1-21 are pending after entry of the amendments set forth herein. Claims 1-21 were examined and rejected. Claims 1, 7, 8 and 15 are amended.

No new matter has been added. Specifically, support for the amendment to claims 1 and 19 is found in paragraphs 25-28 as well as elsewhere in the Specification, including the figures. Support for the "binding pair member" set forth in claim 15 is found in paragraph 32. The other amendments are formalistic in nature.

37 C.F.R. §1.75(d)(1)

Claim 15 has been amended to handle the issue involving the Specification and claim noted by the Examiner. Therefore, withdrawal of the objection to the specification is requested.

35 U.S.C. §112

Claim 8 has been amended to handle the typographical error noted by the Examiner. Therefore, withdrawal of the objection is requested.

35 U.S.C. §102

In rejecting claim 15-18 under §102(e) as anticipated by Kim *et al.*, the Examiner has failed to address the requirement of claim 15 that the array used in the method be one produced according to the method of claim 14. Since neither claim 14 nor the claims from which it incorporates limitations was rejected in view of Kim *et al.*, it is believed that claims 15-18 should be allowable in view of the reference as well. Unless any or all of claims 8-14 are to be rejected over Kim, then withdrawal of the rejection against claims 15-18 is believed to be in order.

In any case, Applicant asserts that Kim fails to teach all of the limitations of claims 15-18. Yet, Applicant reserves any further comment regarding the same unless or until the noted incorporation of the limitations of claim 14 into claim 15 is addressed by the Examiner since a full case of anticipation has not yet been made.

35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 1-14 and 19-21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Schleifer *et al.* in view of Gibson *et al.*

Concerning claim 8, the text requires "flowing dry gas over a capacitance sensor apart from said synthesis environment . . ." The rejection drafted by the Examiner contemplates a capacitance sensor "in the synthesis environment/chamber." As such, the rejection on record does not meet the limitations of claim 8 (or the claims dependent therefrom) and the rejection should be withdrawn.

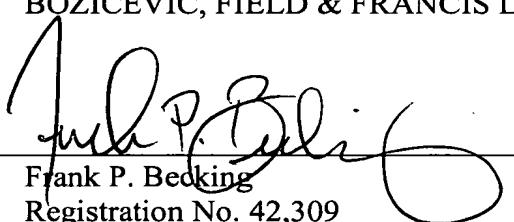
As amended, claims 1, 19 and those dependent therefrom require that the sampling chamber of the invention be separate or apart from the environment to be sampled for moisture by that capacitance sensor probe. In addition, these claims require that a sampling conduit or siphon be provided and in fluid communication through the first port of the chamber and the environment to effect sampling. Such an approach is neither taught nor fairly suggested by Schleifer and/or Gibson. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection(s) is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

Applicant submits that all of the claims are in condition for allowance, which action is requested. If the Examiner finds that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any underpayment of fees associated with this communication, including any necessary fees for extensions of time, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1078, order number 10010408-1.

Respectfully submitted,
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